A VINDGATION OF SUMTER FIREMEN

FROM CANDEN FIREMEN'S FALSE CHARGES.

A Statement of Facts by the Chief of the Sumter Fire Department.

Editor The Daily Item: It is not surprising that the Camden Firemen would like to drop the charge of fraud and discourtesy they have brought against Sumter, for they know such charges are unkind, ungentlemanly and untrue.

can justly blame no one but themselves, for they had an equal chance at all prizes, and would have won had their team been faster than the winners; and to attempt to explain their defeat by charging fraud is small and not prepared to say that there was Earnest Bultman, of the Delgar team, unbecoming in gentlemen.

They assert that the water pressure was not good when they ran, and that they were forced to use more hose than the rules required, and claim they easily won first place, but were cheated out of it.

I deny each and every one of the above assertions, and will introduce in support of my assertions, statements from gentlemen whose standing is well known and whose honor and integrity cannot be questioned, and challenge Camden to produce any tangible evidence to support their statements.

No visiting company received more attention than did Camden, and they were tendered the use of everything in the department, and when they were not satisfied, with what we had, Capt. Hood borrowed for them, from the No. 3 Company of Columbia, wagon, harness and hangers and further offered to secure horses, if necessary or desired.

Cainden was the only company detected in the attempt to enter any race in direct violation of the rules and regulations governing the contest.

They, with all other companies, entered into an agreement to weigh all wagons stripped, and to furnish the net weight of wagons alone, to the starting judge, yet within a few hours after they entered into this agreement, they came to the track to enter the race, and it was discovered that they had 292 pounds of old iron concealed in their tool box, and the wagon had been weighed with this iron.

Why did they weigh this old iron with their wagon when they had agreed to weigh the wagon alone?

Then it was developed that Camden stated to the Chief Marshal that their hose had been measured by the starting judge, and found correct; he thereupon directed them to place the hose in their wagon and come to the scratch, when objection was raised, by a representative of the Delgar team, and their hose was ordered measured, and found four feet and four inches shorter than the rules

Why did Camden attempt to enter the race with short hose?

For obvious reasons, they claim their hose had shrunk, but such a claim is preposterous, and can only ness to all. mislead those who know nothing of

the nature of hose. The Delgar team ran a clean, fair race, in strict compliance with all rules and regulations, and asked nor received favors from no one, neither did they receive any special concessions, but ran a race totally devoid of all trickery, fraud or deception; and the races held here during the recent any statement, or insinuation to the contrary is absolutely false.

In support of my position, I beg that you will publish the accompanying statements, which were unhesitatingly furnished, and will explain themselves. Respectfully,

W. S. Graham, Capt. Delgar Reel Team and Chief Fire Department.

Sumter, S. C., July 10, 1902. Mr. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C. Dear Sir: I was Chairman and Capt. Rhame, of the Camden team, was Secretary of the Captains' meeting, at which a resolution was introduced, and carried, to the effect that all hose wagons entering the races, must be stripped before being weighed, and the net weight of the wagon alone be furnished to the judges, and if any deficiency in weight should occur, then the Judges should supply the necessary weight by adding sacks of

shot provided for the purpose by the

Sumter Fire Department. Very truly,

R. S. Hood, Chairman.

Mr. W. S. Graham. Dear Sir: You ask me for a statement as to the facts as to weight of Camden hose reel wagon. I was asked by the Captains, or some of them, to weigh each and every hose wagon; all wagons to be empty and stripped of all weight except such hose as they intended to use. While at dinner on the day of races I was told by one of our young men who works with me at stable that Camden wagon had been at scales and he had t ken weight of the stand pipe was full, so there could same. He told me the weight and I be no difference in the pressure. said, "Are you sure you weighed that wagon right, as that seems pretty heavy for that small wagon?" He said, "I am sure I weighed it right." I said, "Did you strip the wagon, see that the Fire Department of Sumter, I have had anything else but "fisher tal Crepe paper; assorted in all the everything was out of boxes?" "No make the following statement in regard man's luck" this spring. The seiners sir, I did not," was his reply. I told to the action of the Camden Hose have all been rewarded by the hauling him if he weighed it he should have Team in the recent Firemen's Tourna- in of large quantities of fish .- Rock

and I must weigh it. They are sore over their defeat, but | weights, and pieces of iron and brass, | if you will state upon your word that when she came back to me, and I asked her Chief what connection they had to the fire wagon. His answer was we use them to help us when we certain amount of weight.

Now, I am sorry that there is some bad feeling in this matter and I don't care to have anything to say, but these are the facts in the case.

Respectfully, C. W. Stansill.

Charleston, S. C., July 14, 1902 Mr. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C. Dear Sir: My opinion is that Tournament was absolutely fair and square, and each team had a fair start. M. J. Grace, Starting Judge.

Columbia, S. C., July 9, 1902. Mr. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C. Dear Sir: During the hose wagon races held in your city, June 26th last, I was stationed at hydrant, as hydrant judge, and I am positive that every team received the same treatment, and so far as I was able to see, there was a total absence of every thing that bordered on trickery or fraud.

I am confident that the water pressure was the same throughout, and the winning team won on its merits. Very truly,

W. J. May, Chief Columbia Fire Department.

Columbia, S. C., July 15. W. S. Graham, Chief Fire Dept. We have no complaint, everything fair and square.

Chas. Narey, Capt. Columbia No. 3.

Columbia, S. C., July 15. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C. Your courtesy all that could be expected and I have no complaint. Jno. B. Rodgers, President Ind. Fire Co.

Columbia, S. C, July 15. W. S. Graham, Chief Fire Dept., Sumter, S. C.

I consider the tournament held in your city as fair as any we ever attended, both with courtesy and fair-Geo. A. Shields, Prest. Palmetto Fire Co.

Sumter, S. C., July 10, 1902.

W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C. Dear Sir: Following the wishes of the local firemen, I instructed the engineer at the pumping station to keep the standpipe running over during all tournament, and I am positive that my instructions were carried out to the letter. The maximum pressure obtainable at the hydrant at which all connections were made during the races, is from 53 to 55 pounds. Very H. L. Scarborough, Supt. Sumter Water Co., and County

Sumter, S. C., July 10, 1902.

Mr. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S C. Dear Sir: I am chief engineer at the pumping station of the Sumter Water Company, and a practical plumber. At the request of the chief of Fire Department, I placed a water gauge near the hydrant to be used during the firemen's tournament, held

I had instructions from the superintendent to have the stand pipe running over during all the races of the tournament, which instructions were very rigidly followed.

here June 25-26 last.

On the day of the hose wagon races, I started the pumps and had everything in good order, so left my assistant in charge of the pumps, and I went to see the races. When I reached the track I went immediately to the pressure gauge to see that it was all right, and to see that the pumps

I very carefully watched the gauge throughout all the races, and I know the pressure was the same.

The maximum pressure was from 53 to 55 pounds, and the gauge at all the pumps were slowly working and

Very truly, W. H. Epperson.

done so. Some of the boys asked me ment held here. I was Chief Marshall Hill Herald.

the weight of the Camden wagon. I at the request of the Fire Department, told them I had not weighed it, but and showed the same treatment to all this young man had, and also his the teams here. The only deviation weight of same. They expressed sur- from the orders given me was just One Negro Killed and Another prise at weight and said that would before the Camden team ran on the not go, but Camden must weigh over second day. The judges on the stand called upon me to hurry up matters as Some of the firemen went off and it was then growing late. I went to brought Camden back, with a young the starting point and found the startwhite man driving. I was told that ing judge (Mr. Grace) trying to get he was the Chief of Camden's Fire off the Columbia team. I found the Department. I asked him if he would | Camden hose then not in the wagon, open up and show his boxes, which he and I asked the Captain if his hose readily did. I found one of his boxes had been measured and if it was cornear the rear step full of old iron rect, and he said "yes." I then said which I had him to take out and then I your hose has been measured and is weighed it over and found his weight correct, I will order you to put it in 1620 pounds. His first weight was the wagon, whereupon he answered 1912 pounds. Making a difference of "it is;" I then said go ahead and 292 pounds. Now, Mr Graham, I am hurry up things, whereupon Mr. anything wrong in this weight, as objected, saying "the hose must be Camden still had the weights in wagon remeasured." I then went to Mr. Grace and asked him if he had the measurements of the Camden hose in his book and he said, "I have not measured it, but will send my assisthave to put on more weight to get a ant, Mr. Daily, to do so at once, as I am starting this team." When I asked the Captain of the Camden team if his hose had been measured, I meant had it been measured by the judge as all the other teams had been done and was surprised to find that Mr. Grace did not have his measurements at all. He probably understood me to say had his hose been measured, meaning by himself, but in either case he had no reason or any right to say that they were correct, and when upon remeasuring they were found to be between 4 and 5 feet short. On my return to the starting point after the Columbia team had run, the hose were still not in the wagon, and I asked why, and was told that they had been measured why, was told that the hose had shrunk up. I then offered to procure some hose from the Delgar team for them, but was told that it would not fit. I did procure a section of hose from the Columbia team and lent it to the Camden team immediately. They complained of no discourtesy on my part then, as it was procured at once. In my opinion a length of 300 feet of hose might shrink some, but hardly to the extent of 4 or 5 feet.

In the capacity of Chief Marshall I was thanked by many of the visiting teams for the fair treatment they had received, and the exceptionally clear track they had to run on, which they said reflected great credit upon Sumter and her firemen. All this being contrary to the statement made by the

Camden team. Yours respectfully, Irving A. Ryttenberg, Marshall.

Sumter, S. C., July 10, 1902. Mr. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C.

Dear Sir: I was on the track during the hose wagon races held here on June 26th, and I very frequently examined the water guage, and at all times found the pressure practically the same. Very truly,

> J. K. Bradford, Chief Sumter Police.

Sumter, S. C., July 10, 1902. Mr. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C. Dear Sir: I was stationed by the Mayor, at the hydrant to watch the water gauge, immediately after Delgar team ran; I then found the pressure to be fifty three pounds, from which point it never moved more than one to three pounds. I carefully watched the gauge while all teams were running, and I know that Camden had fifty-four pounds, which is as much as can be had at the hydrant to which all connections were made.

Very truly, L. E. White, Street Commissioner.

Sumter, S. C., July 10, 1902. Mr. W. S. Graham, Sumter, S. C.

Dear Sir: Immediately following the run of the Delgar team, in the recent tournament, held, here, my attention was called, by a Camden man, to what he claimed to be a difference in water

I thereupon examined the pressure guage and found it then registered fifty-three pounds, which I believe to be the maximum pressure obtainable at that particular hydrant.

Mr. L. E. White, a sworn officer of the city, was then stationed to watch the guage, and I requested a Camden man to assist, and also watched the guage, and know the pressure remained the same, or practically so, throughout the remainder of the races. Very truly,

W. B. Boyle, Alderman.

Fine Fishing in the Catawba.

The Chester Lantern tells of a fisherman who caught in the Catawba one day last week a sturgeon which weighed 236 pounds. The Lantern also says that the river seems to be times during the races, showed that literally filled with a fine variety of fish this summer, and that the same fisherman recently caught in his fall trap a wagon load of the denizens of the deep. Our reports go to confirm the Lantern's statement. While none of our fishermen have been able to fill At the request of Chief Graham of a wagon body with their catch, they

RIOT IN ORANGEBURG.

Seriously Wounded.

Orangeburg, July 13.—An incipient riot participated in by whites and pegroes in which knives were freely used, held a portion of the main street of the city last night between 10 and 11 o'clock and as a result there is one dead negro today and several others are under treatment for wounds.

It is not an easy matter to get at the primary facts what caused the row and by whom particularly it was started. It is supposed, however, to have originated in a difficulty between white men and a negro, the former being the aggressors, who are here under Foreman Haynes of the Atlanta construction department of the Bell Telphone company stringing cables for the local exchange.

It is freely charged that the same parties have on several occasions heretofore raised disturbance with negroes on the streets without the slightest cause. And it may be added that the negroes were at no time the aggressors nor did they give any cause for the attack last night. This is the evidence of those who saw the most of

A NON-COMBATANT KILLED.

Isaac Smith, the man who died today, from wounds received is said not to have been a participant in the walking the streets when, he received his death wound.

It is also charged that some of the local white people were abettors of the

NEWS ITEMS.

Seattle, Wash, July 13.-Notwithstanding the general, belief that Tracey is on the verge of collapse as the result of buckshot wounds and illness resulting from exposure in the wet brush, he managed to keep hidden from the officers today. This was especially and found about 5 feet short; asking disappointing to the four sheriffs now on his trail, as they had led him an exhausting chase up to last night, and hoped to push the pursuit to an actual encounter today. The search will be continued with renewed zeal.

Berlin, July 13.—A private dispatch here from Warsaw says that the agricultural societies of Poland are negotiating with American manufacturers direct for the purchase of machinery, excluding the German middlemen. This step is believed to be aimed also at German machinery. Several newspapers publish the above dispatch as illustrative of the efforts of Americans to supplant German manufacturers.

New York, July 13.—The Peary Arctic steamer Windward arrived at Jersey City today and will go into commission and depart for the north

tomorrow, Pekin, July 13 .- The foreign minis ters to China have agreed upon the

conditions for the restoration of the government of Tien Tsin to China, and these conditions await the signature of the Italian minister, - the Marquis Salvaog Raggi, who is absent, for presentation to the Chinese Government. According to the conditions the thirty kilometer radius from which Chinese troops are excluded is reduced to twenty kilometres, the limitation of the number of police which the Chinese may maintain within the radius is eliminated and the concessions granted by the Provisional Government are ignored.

King Edward Goes to Sea.

London, July 14.—The specially constructed ambulance in which King Edward is to be removed from Buckingham palace to the railway station was taken to the palace this afternoon. Six blue jackets who have been selected to remove the king went through a rehearsal by removing the couch on which the king has at times been resting to the ambulance, under the direction of the nurses.

His majesty, when he is taken from the palace tomorrow will be accompanied by Queen Alexandra, Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark, Sir Francis Knollys, the king's private secretary, and the attending physi-

It is understood that no bulletin regarding the king's condition will be issued until his majesty shall be safely on board the Victoria and Albert tomorrow evening.

All the Jews engaged in the iron ore and coal mining industries in the Government of Elkaterinoslaf, Russia, pursuant to a gubernatorial, edict and during the course of the current month, to be expelled from their employment, and those having no lawful right of domicile are to be expelled from the Government. Some exceptions are made with Jews holding appointments on the clerical force of the mining companies, but these are also liable to subsequent expulsion at the pleasure of the Governor of the province. Elkaterinoslaf is the largest mining government in Russia. The expulsory edict will probably affect between 40,000 and 50,00 Jews.

In his recent oration at the centenary of West Point Academy, Gen Horace Porter uttered this epigrammatic advice, good for soldier and civilian alike:" Never underrate yourself in a battle, and never overrate yourself in a dispatch"

John W. Abercrombie, a native of Alabama. and relatively a young man, has been elected to the presidency of the State University.

Mr. J. N. McElwee is responsible for the statement that a hen that was sitting on 13 eggs recently came off her nest with nine chicks, leaving four eggs unhatched. Ten days afterwards three other chicks appeared in the nest, having been hatched by the sun's heat. Now, the perplexing question arises as to who is the mother of those chicks.-Rock Hill Herald.

most popular shades for hats. This is a new and superior quality of paper, looks better and retains its color and freshness longer than cheaper grades. Full length rolls, 12 cents.

CAMPANILE OF VENICE IN RUINS.

The City Mourns the Loss of this Landmark and the Statutary it Contained.

Venice, Italy, July 14.—The Campanile (detached bell tower) of St. Mark's church, 98 metres high, collapsed at 10.40 this morning and fell with a great crash into the piazza. It is now a heap of ruins, piled to a height of 100 feet.

In falling it carried away the Sansovino Logetta and the library of the royal palace. There were no fatalities but a few persons were injured. The disaster caused an immense sensation. The town and communal councils have been summoned to meet this evening.

A little before the collapse of the tower a noise of falling stones within the bell tower warned the shopkeepers, workmen and tourists of the impending disaster and all fled for their lives. Venetians were seen in the streets bemoaning the destruction of the oldest art treasure in the kingdom. Four of Sansovino's statues of Venetian nobles were demolished in the Sansovino Logetta, while a beautiful example of a Paul Veronese painting was destroyed in the palace. The wing of an angel from top of the bell tower was thrown down to the front door of the cathedral, smashing the Bando column, which was hurled 35 feet, just escaping the column suprow, but was peacefully and quietly porting the south angle of the cathedral and thus averting a more serious disaster. The fall of the tower produced a thick red dust which spread like a hanging cloud over the city. strangers in last nights' disgraceful This, with the rumbling, volcanic noise startled the inhabitants of the most remote suburbs. Thousands of soldiers and police aided in allaying

> The deputies of Venice have telegraphed to the government for authorization to establish a lottery to raise funds to rebuild the tower.

TRAIN ROBBERS IN COLORADO.

A Reminder of Stage Coach Days in the West.

Salida, Col., July 14.—The westbound Denver and Rio Grande narrow gauge passenger train was held up by four masked men at 8.50 o'clock this morning near Chester, Col., a mountainous locality at the foot of the west slope of Marshall pass. The engineer was compelled at the point of a revolver to stop the train by masked men who had climbed over the tender.

Two safes in the express car were blown open. The passengers were compelled to alight from the cars and line up alongside the tracks in the canyon where they were relieved of all their money and valuables. There were many tourists and it is presumed that the losses were heavy.

The bandits disappeared in ravines that lead into Marshall pass. The sheriff at Selida and sheriffs of adjoining counties and a dozen posses are in pursuit.

FIRE IN EDGEFIELD.

Boarding House of the Female Students of the South Carolina Co-educational Institute Totally Destroyed.

Edgefield, July 14.-Edgefield suffered a severe loss by fire this morning. The Institute building, occupied by the female boarders of the South Carilina Co-educational Institute, with all outbuildings, was totally destroyed. The building was originally built as a hotel for Northern tourists and cost about twenty thousand dolhere. It was owned by Mr. D. A. Tompkins, of Charlotte. It was insured for \$8,000, besides \$3,000 on the furniture. When the fire broke out, which was about 11 o'clock, the summer school was in session in the building. No fire had been on the premises for a month, and its origin is attributed to rats and matches. It was only by the hardest work that the Bacon mansion was saved-it having caught several times.

His Dyspepsia.

"You say you take half an hour for luncheon every day?" "Yes."

"Well, you ought not to have dyspep-

"But, you see, I spend twenty-five of those minutes deciding what I want to eat."-Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

A Windfall. "You say his money fell to him?"

"No. He fell to it-tumbled through a coal hole and sued the city."-Chicago Herald.

Democrats! Attention,

Pursuant to resolution of the County Democratic Executive Committee, county campaign meetings, at which the candidates for county offices will address the voters, will be held in Sumter councy as follows: Privateer, Tuesday, August 5.

Providence, Tuesday, August 12. Shiloh, Tuesday, August 19. Sumter, Friday, August 22nd (night), and Saturday, August 23rd at 11 o'clock a. m.

Each candidate for a county office and for Congress is required to file his pledge with the County Chairman and pay the preliminary assessment of \$1.50 on or before Monday, August 4.

Magistrates will be voted for in the primary as heretofore.

Co.'s book store a large stock of Crys- names of three Managers for the primary election, will do so at once. JOHN M. KNIGHT,

H. L. B. WELLS.

Sumter, July 16.

Secretary.

County Chairman.

A CARELESS CONSUL.

The Way Bret Harte Came to Lo His Position at Glasgow.

When Bret Harte was consul at Glasgow, he was seldom to be found in that city, as he spent most of his time in the London drawing rooms, where he was a general favorite, and delegated the consular business to assistants. One day while making one of his rare visits to Glasgow he scraped acquaintance with a stranger on the train. Each seemed fascinated by the other's personality, and time passed quickly. At last they reached the outskirts of a large city.

"What place is this?" inquired the

"I haven't the slightest idea," replied Harte, after looking out of the window. A few minutes later the railway, guard opened the door of the compartment and announced that they bad arrived at Glasgow.

When Harte showed up at the consulate the next morning, the first person who advanced to greet him was the agreeable stranger, who introduced himself as a special agent of the home government sent to investigate charges of neglect of duty on the part of the

consul. The agent may have been affable, but he was lacking in a sense of humor, for he evidently cabled his government an account of the train incident, as Harte's successor was soon after appointed.

Food and Character. One might almost say that the recipe-

for a happy home was what has been aptly called a "bland" diet. While it is not literally true that eating hog makes a hog of a man, yet it is true there is a large connection between it and character. Bloodthirsty, lustful races are those that eat meat-largely rare meat-freely, whereas the gentle, industrious, persistent races are mostly grain and fruit eaters.

While the controversy over vegetarianism is one for scientists to settle, even the humblest of us can afford to try for himself the advantages of a "bland" diet. It is a most interesting experience to see how acute and sensitive the sense of taste can become by avoiding food that has a strong taste.

No one knows the delicate sweets and acids, oils and bites in our common cereals and fruits who eats huge chunks of fish, flesh and fowl highly flavored and deluged with biting sauces. Simplicity of life can be as much a part of diet as of furniture or clothes. - William Noyes in Good Housekeeping.

Did as He Was Told.

An impecunious constituent of a Chicago alderman called upon the latter at his office last week and requested the loan of a dollar. A two dollar bill was the smallest the alderman had. This he handed to the caller with the

"Go to the cigar stand down stairs, get a fifteen cent cigar, keep a dollar

and bring me the change." In a few minutes the visitor reappeared, puffing contentedly at a cigar, and handed the alderman 85 cents. Noticing a peculiar expression on the alderman's face, he withdrew the cigar from his lips long enough to inquire:

"Did you mean that the cigar was for you or me?"

"Get out of here!" was all the disgusted politician could say.

TRAMPS' GATEPOST SIGNS

Explanations Which Will Help You to Understand Them.

The rude drawings hardly need a key. When on some white gatepost I found the sketch of a gun, I stole farther down the road. I had a strong oblars, being the most imposing edifice jection so early in my career to being riddled full of holes by some intrepid farmer. The outline of a dog of warlike proportions, with wild eyes and ferocious teeth, was wont to make me go breakfastless. My summer wardrobe was not in condition to allow of further mutilation. If I felt brave enough to kick a yelping cur, I sauntered in recklessly at the gate which bore a portrait of a toy dog. Once past him one could usually get a bite.

A big round "O" did not make one wild to approach the premises it adorned. It generally portrayed a hostess with a nature of adamant. A single "X" stood for a cross saw, which with small manipulation might earn a meal. Two X's made a tramp of none too vigorous a makeup go farther down the road. It suggested considerable wood cutting in exchange for a meal.

The sign every tramp looks for anxiously is a crudely drawn table, with a lopsided coffee cup and a plate upon it. Beyond that gatepost dwells a sweet, simple, motherly soul who will welcome the most dilapidated hobo into her spotless kitchen and set before him a good square meal. She may sit beside him, inquiring as to the safety of his soul, and she may give him a mother's gentle advice or she may havea story to tell tearfully of a wayward; boy lost somewhere in the great world, and all the fee she asks for her gracious hospitality is a simple request that in the wanderings of her guest hemay look about for her absent boy and give him a loving message of a mother's longing and watching. - Good Housekeeping.

Forewarned:

Agent-Let me show you something very neat in the way of artificial limbs. Mr. Busyman-Nonsense! Don't bother me. I'm not a cripple.

Agent-Of course not, but it's always, well to be prepared for emergencies, es pecially here in New York .- Brooklyn

The Worst Trouble.

Just received at H. G. Osteen & Committee who have not yet sent in than real trouble?" I asked the intellec-Is there anything harder to bear tual man who sat next to me in the smoker. "Only imaginary trouble," he replied.

-Judge.

If you get rich, you must make money during dull times .-- Atchison Globe.